DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Raman Tampi, In my reply to Mr. Abdul Rahim, I said that Government are considering the question of revising the order constituting the cardamom reserves. And in making registries of Government lands, they are considering the claims of Travancore applicants for the registry of lands in the High Range areas where they have not got lands already.

You refer to a rule in the Puduval Rules whereby a person who is in occupation has a preferential right over a law-abiding man who did not enter upon Government lands before getting their permission. Government themselves have in contemplation a revision of the Puduval Rules, especially Rule 18 of the same. I cannot promise that the revision will be in the direction in which you have wanted it. But, a revision is under the consideration of Government.

9. Reduction of the tax on rubber lands.

MR. E. T. C. FARR (*South Travancore Planters' Association*) spoke about the need for reducing the tax on rubber lands. The tax was introduced when large profits were being made in rubber in other countries. It was thought at that time that the rubber estates opened or being opened in Travancore would prove to be very profitable investments and in consequence the tax was levied at Rs. 2 per acre which was very high compared to taxes on other products. It was, however, quite evident that rubber was not going to prove such a profitable investment. It was particularly so in South India where yields were poor in comparison and where it had become literally a fight for existence. Many estates had in fact closed down altogether. The agents, the rubber planters and their subordinates had in the previous few months to make considerable sacrifices in salaries, bonuses, etc.; and nearly all works necessary for the general upkeep and proper maintenance of the estates were being curtailed or cut out altogether.

The member concluded his representation by making the suggestion that in the above circumstances the planters were more than justified in asking for a reduction in the tax from Rs. 2 to Re. 1 per acre or, if that could not be done, for a remission in the payment of the tax until rubber had recovered.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Farr. The condition of the rubber market that you referred to in your representation is, I believe, slightly improved now. It is not rubber alone that is suffering, but all sorts of crops from land; at any rate, all sorts of produce that we are accustomed to have in Travancore, are suffering equally with rubber. Your prayer that some relief must be given to the rubber planters will certainly be considered by the Government along with similar representations that the Government are receiving from producers of other crops from land. You expressed a fear that rubber might not recover at all. We are all hoping that the present economic depression which is responsible for all these troubles is not going to last for ever or even last long. And we are all looking forward to the depression lifting

within a short time. I hope that that contingency will soon come and make the condition of rubber and other produce of the land from Travancore better. Your representation will receive the consideration of Government.

10. Lands to Pulayas.

MR. AIYYAN KALI (*Nominated*) who made his representation in Malayalam, expressed his community's sense of gratitude towards the Government for the concessions already granted to Pulayas in the matter of registry of lands. The Pulayas were particularly thankful for the 3 acres of land each granted to them on concessional terms. They, however, stood in need of further minor concessions.

Pulayas should not be charged for survey work.

Rules should be passed prohibiting the acquisition of land by the members of other communities within the areas reserved for Pulayas. When such acquisitions gave rise to litigation, as in the Vilappil *pakuthi*, Pulayas should be exempted from court fees, the entire cost being recovered from the other parties. The eviction of persons occupying the lands registered in the names of the Pulayas was found to be a matter of great difficulty.

Pulayas should be given agricultural loans, as they had not the wherewithal to cultivate the lands given to them.

Pulayas were grateful to Government for providing a cemetery for their use in the Trivandrum town. For the convenience and benefit of members of the community who resorted to the Capital for various purposes, a common hall was necessary within the town limits. Government should make a free gift of 50 cents of land in Chenkalchoola for that purpose.

A Protector of the Depressed Classes should be appointed to look after the interests of the communities concerned.

DEWAN'S REPLY: അധഃകൃതക്കായി പ്രത്യേകം ഒഴിച്ചിട പ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമിയിൽ മറ്റുള്ളവർ പ്രവേശിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്ന ഒരു രൂ പംവേണമെന്നാണ് നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞത്. ഇങ്ങനെ തിരിച്ചു വച്ചിട്ടുള്ള വസ്തുക്കളിൽ മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ പ്രവേശനം സാധാരണ അനുവദിക്കാറില്ല. എന്നാൽ നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞതുപൊലെ അതിൽ കുറെക്കൂടി നിഷ്കർഷയാ യ രൂപ്സ് ഉണ്ടാക്കാമോ എന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ആലോചിക്കാം.

പതിച്ചു കിട്ടിയിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികളിൽ മറ്റാളുകൾ താമസിക്കുന്നു; അവരെ ഒഴിപ്പിക്കാൻ പ്രയാസമാണ് എന്നു നിങ്ങൾപറഞ്ഞു. അതുര ണ്ടുപ്രകാരത്തിൽവരാം. അതിൽ ഒന്ന് ആസ്ഥലം നിങ്ങൾക്കു പതി ച്ചു തരുന്നതിനു മുമ്പു ആസ്ഥലത്തു ആരെങ്കിലും പ്രവേശിച്ചു താമസി